San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

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TO: Commissioners and Alternates

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SUBJECT: Staff Report on Outcomes of Workshop on Scoping Implementation of Regional

Actions on Addressing Sea Level Rise Approved by the Commission on October 6, 2016

(For Commission consideration on December 15, 2016)

Summary

The Commission held the fifth in a series of public workshops focused on rising sea levels and the ability of the Commission's existing policies, programs and laws to address this challenge. This fifth workshop, held on December 1, 2016, reviewed the eight adaptation actions that the Commission voted to take up on October 6, 2016. The eight adaption actions are described here: http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/cm/2016/1006RSL-Workshop-Recommendation-Memo.pdf. The Commission and workshop participants discussed the preamble to the eight actions drafted by staff, provided feedback on the proposed timeline for action implementation and first steps. The complete slide deck presented to participants is available here:

http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/cm/2016/1201Workshop5Presentation.pdf. Participants then broke into groups to scope desired outcomes, resources, and key stakeholders for implementation of the actions on developing a regional adaptation plan (action 1) and a regional asset adaptation plan (action 4).

Key feedback received from participants through the scoping exercise included the need to develop a regional adaptation plan based around clear timelines, phased implementation, and an iterative process that can adapt over time as new information becomes available. Several groups of participants spoke to the importance of ensuring that the regional adaptation plan and the regional asset adaptation plan is designed to address critical regional issues including housing, vulnerable communities, managed retreat, and equity in financing. The majority of participants emphasized the need to engage business and media in the process.



Staff Report

Background. BCDC staff will continue to host workshops over the next six months in order to solicit feedback from Commissioners and stakeholders on how we should approach implementation of each of the eight adaptation actions the Commission has adopted. The next workshop will focus on the innovative financing action.

Presentations, summaries, and material from each workshop are available at http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/workshops.html.

Feedback on the Preamble to Eight Adaptation Actions. As the December 1st workshop marked the first workshop on scoping implementation of the eight adaptation actions, the workshop began with a presentation of the preamble developed by staff. The purpose of the preamble is to define the principles that will frame the way the Commission implements the eight adaptation actions. The text of the preamble is available in the slide deck here: http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/cm/2016/1201Workshop5Presentation.pdf. The preamble was developed by BCDC staff at the request of the Commission in order to set out framing principles for the actions. Workshop participants provided the following comments:

- 1. Reconsider the term "Disadvantaged Communities" as it is defined in state law and its definition is limiting.
- 2. Concept of equitable solutions needs to come across as we don't want solutions that cause more problems for adjacent communities.
- 3. Highlight urgency and phasing.
- 4. Should emphasize the need for experimentation and collaboration.

This feedback will be integrated into a revised preamble.

Feedback on Eight Adaptation Actions. The presentation also included a proposed timeline for implementation of the eight actions and key steps in implementing the actions (with the expectation that implementation of each action will be further scoped in workshops in the coming months). Workshops participants provided the following general input into timeline and the action plan presented:

- 1. In working on the Regional Data Portal Action, BCDC should be working to make data as accessible to as broad a public audience as possible. The Adapting to Rising Tides Program website includes a significant amount of information on the work that BCDC is doing, completed products and upcoming meetings and BCDC also shares data and information with ART working group member agencies and other initiatives like Marin County's BayWAVE and San Mateo County's SeaChange, but are always open to new ideas on data and information sharing.
- 2. The Regional Asset Adaptation Plan Action, should consider not only current assets but also bigger and bolder ideas that would address regional scale vulnerabilities, such as barriers. There are major funding restrictions so the right partners are needed. One of the reasons to conduct assessments of some of these bigger ideas is to determine the feasibility and consequences of such ideas.

- 3. Also, in considering the **Regional Asset Adaptation Plan Action**, some were concerned that the timeline depicted initiating this action in 2021. BCDC staff suggested that there is nothing preventing us from advancing adaptation at county, local, and sector scales in the meantime. Time is needed for public engagement.
- 4. In considering the **Explore New Institutional Arrangements Action**, the group felt the action should be initiated in 2017 rather than 2018 and BCDC staff agreed to this.
- 5. In considering the **Regional Education Campaign Action**, participants also strongly encouraged that the action be initiated as soon as possible and that it was an action that is critically important for the region to work on and support. Staff agreed to consider moving the initiation up and looking to existing and new partners to help BCDC do so.

Action Scoping Exercise. Workshop participants broke into eight groups to spend an hour completing a worksheet focused on scoping desired outcomes, resources, and key stakeholders for implementation of the two actions. The groups produced a diverse set of responses (and each group's responses can be viewed in the appendix below).

Despite the range of responses, there were some common themes that ran across the groups. In terms of core components of a regional adaptation plan, several groups reported that the plan should follow an iterative process that will build relationships, educate diverse stakeholders, and integrate the latest science as it becomes available. In addition, several groups agreed that the regional adaptation plan should be organized around clear timelines and phased implementation. In terms of key issues to be addressed by both the regional adaptation plan and the regional asset adaptation plan, several groups highlighted the importance of addressing critical regional issues such as housing, vulnerable communities, managed retreat, and equity in financing.

In considering resources, participants cited a diverse set of information resources ranging from the upcoming state sea level rise projection update, Safeguarding California, General Plans, asset specific plans, and lessons learned outside of San Francisco Bay. Several participants encouraged us to drawn on lessons from the east coast and outside of the U.S. (e.g. the Netherlands). Many groups agreed that ABAG and BARC should act as co-leaders with BCDC on action implementation. While dozens of different NGO, university, and federal, state, and regional agencies were mentioned as additional partners and stakeholders in this process, groups relatively consistently highlighted the need to collaborate with the business community and focus efforts on media, marketing, and public relations.

Next Steps

Staff will incorporate the comments and feedback received in the workshop and use it to develop a workplan and timeline for specific steps and outcomes for both of these actions. This will be presented at future Commission meetings and will be shared with all who have participated in past workshops and anyone who is interested in receiving this information.

Appendix: Group worksheet responses (on scoping implementation of actions on developing a regional adaptation plan and a regional asset adaptation plan)

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
 What should be the core components of the Regional Adaptation Plan? A vulnerability assessment to educate the public Assets prioritized over time Established regional technical guidelines. Problem if neighbors are not working/ following same technical guidelines, this will be problematic Framing/guiding principles Recommend legislative change to facilitate 	 What types of information are available? California King Tides Initiative Highway 37 studies Caltrans Regional Assessment Statewide SLR database 	 Who should co-lead with BCDC? SPUR, CHARG New organization?
 adaptation What issues should be addressed? Housing needs Site specific solutions Regional prioritization of wetland creation sites Integration with local and state OES What assets should be included? Include federal state, local assets, toxic sites Underground utilities 	 What people power is available? San Mateo County: Flood Managers, Office of Sustainability Silicon Valley: Higher Ed students and faculty Media K-12 education e.g., "YESS" What funding is available? Measure AA Federal/State Infrastructure money 	Who should be an engaged partner? Business community/BAC Media Design/engineering schools (CCA, UCB, Stanford) SVJV Sea Level Rise Task Force (Kara Gross) What kinds of new collaborations and partnerships are needed to ensure all frames of
Hazardous waste sites Transportation		 sustainability are considered? Federal agencies: Army Corps, FEMA Business: Public Affairs, Private (needs: dedicated media outreach and public affairs) Sub-regional meetings and partners that participate in regional efforts (challenging to get people to regional meetings from all over)
	Name the Regional Adaptation Pla (RBAE) "Our Bay"	an: Rising Bay Adaptation Effort

GROUP # 2

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
 What should be the core components of the Regional Adaptation Plan? Don't worsen. Create procedures to avoid worsen while we work towards a solution. High level definition of nature and assets Maintain quality of life Prioritize asset adaptation 	What types of information are available? Inventory of Land Use Plans Asset Specific Plans (airports, BART, etc) County Vulnerability Plans Flood Control	Who should co-lead with BCDC?Asset ownersABAG
 What issues should be addressed? Governance and information challenges, disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, habitat restoration and enhancement, safe and smart growth Retreat from current or planned development Economics of adaptation 	 What people power is available? BPC, BAC, Chambers of Commerce, CPUC, Public Utility Agencies, Private Companies, Universities 	 Who should be an engaged partner? Local government Caltrans, regulatory transportation agencies BAC, SVLG, BPC
 What assets should be included? Emergency Access Areas (all in future inundated areas) 	 What funding is available? Private industry Foundations Federal and state grants Taxes, fees, and bonds Bay Area Restoration Authority 	What kinds of new collaborations and partnerships are needed to ensure all frames of sustainability are considered? New collaboration strategy to reach all involved
	Name the Regional Adaptation Plan: PART (Plan for ART) SLAP (Sea Level Adaptation Plan) WRAP (Waterfront Reg Adaptation Plan) WEAP (Waters Edge Adaptation Plan)	 Additional Comments: Don't forget about econ because it is too cumbersome. Determine the timeline we're looking at. Engaged partners: Coalitions (Silicon Valley has one). They talked about a new collaborative framework among the many collaborations that already exist.

GROUP#3

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
What should be the core	What types of information are	Who should co-lead with BCDC?
components of the Regional Adaptation Plan?	available?	•
Incorporate 4 frames		
Phasing, Urgency, Innovation		
Forward working-plan for		
future conditions, not just		
preserving existing assets		
Plan for AFTER project life		
spans		
Protect-short, adapt-mid, optimize-long		
What issues should be addressed?	What people power is available?	Who should be an engaged
Rethink infrastructure instead	•	partner?
of just rebuilding what we		Engage business community.
have today (e.g. waste water		Get tech firms to this about
treatment plant), sea level rise plus innovation		sustainability off of their sites. Engage sustainability
Sustainability options		officers.
How do we protect public		Engage cities
lands?		Developers
 How do we say no to new development? 		Environmental communityCommunity organizations—
Identify investment opportunities		find a way to engage (e.g. fund engagement)
What is a Regional Plan		rana engagement,
besides a collection of our		
county ART projects?		
Regional funding vehicles.		
What assets should be included?	What funding is available?	What kinds of new
Transportation (goes beyond		collaborations and
scope of 1 county).		partnerships are needed to
Ecology (ecological systems		ensure all frames of
are truly regional).		sustainability are considered?
		Not just vulnerability
		analysisNeed future vulnerability
		analysis
Name the Regional Adaptation	Additional Comments:	
Plan:	Opportunities: Young people	want dense housing.
Key terms: Future, Bay	Challenges: Dense housing is being built on vulnerable land.	
Forward, Inventing	Where are the investment opportunities (private and public)?	

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
What should be the core	What types of information are	Who should co-lead with BCDC?
components of the	available?	BARC
Regional Adaptation Plan?	Why are you asking us?	Silver Jackets
 Adaptation Plan needs a time 	 Look at what has been done 	BAC
horizon such as 2040. Might	in the Central Valley	BAEA CCC
drive short term, more	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Universities
known investments. Most		SPUR, CHARG
infrastructure planning is		Media
done within 20-25 year		· Wedia
timeframe. Short term		
approaches and a long term		
vision are needed.		
Plan needs to envision long		
term so ideas can incubate		
into the future.		
Consensus needed around		
adaptation investments vs.		
retreat options. Plan should		
provide a toolkit for how to		
compare these options.		
 Maximize strategies for co- 		
benefits.		
Framework for local planning		
efforts. Not just data portal.		
Instead, a "toolkit" with		
examples and precedents is		
needed.		
What issues should be addressed?	What people power is available?	Who should be an engaged
A plan beyond the shoreline	Bay Area Council	partner?
band	 Private Industry-thought 	Insurance companies
Strategy for local and regional	leaders	Bay Area Resilient by Design
financing	 CRI (at UC Berkeley) 	
Equity in financing	 Sustainable Silicon Valley 	
What assets should be included?	What funding is available?	What kinds of new
Top infrastructure priorities:	 Private philanthropy and 	collaborations and
roads, wastewater treatment	state grants	partnerships are needed to
facilities, ports, transit,	 Foundations and corporate 	ensure all frames of
energy, and public utilities	support	sustainability are considered?
	Risk institutes?	Multidisciplinary
		Collaboration
		Fast-tracking Permitting that
		is coordinated between
		multiple agencies

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
Name the Regional Adaptation Plan: Beyond the Band	 Local and regional financing structure vulnerable communities. In short term, no reason not the private shoreline Strategies: Transitional Housing 	consider adaptation planning. trategy needed to address

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
What should be the core	What types of information are	Who should co-lead with BCDC?
components of the	available?	• Counties
Regional Adaptation Plan?	Socio-econ data	Flood control
Implementable plan with	Sea level rise data	• Parks
shovel-ready projects, linked	Best available science	• Cities
to funding such as Clean and	needed	
Healthy Bay Initiative	Local knowledge	
Facilitates meeting	Local plans	
affordability needs		
 Protects critical assets 		
 Phased implementation 		
Plan should define clear roles		
and responsibilities		
What issues should be addressed?	What people power is available?	Who should be an engaged
"At risk communities" (not	Community groups	partner?
disadvantaged and	Planning	MTC-CMAS
vulnerable communities)	Faith-based orgs	• CBOs
financing	Parks—users	NGOs-Bay Planning Coalition
 prioritization 	Electeds	Infrastructure
infrastructure		• RAMP
 vulnerability/risk 		
What assets should be included?	What funding is available?	What kinds of new
• wetlands	Clean and healthy bay	collaborations and
Bay Trail	initiative (Measure AA)	partnerships are needed to
Transportation	• FEMA	ensure all frames of
• Streams	Regional transportation	sustainability are considered?
	taxes	Business interest groups
	Cap N Trade (state)	• EJ, Tech, RCI
		COFFEE!, SOCCER!

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
Name the Regional Adaptation	Additional Comments:	
Plan:	 Natural assets and built asset 	s should be given equal value.
Bay Area Sustainable Strategy	 Use plan to direct funds. Coor 	dinate with One Bay Area Strategy
(BASS)	to eliminate repetitive funding	g.

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
What should be the core components of the	What types of	Who should co-lead with BCDC?
Regional Adaptation Plan?	information are	MTC, ABAG, BARC
Continued availability of Public Services	available?	
 Flexible, adaptive reassessments in response to new information (e.g. new scientific understandings of climate change, new threats) Balance precaution with practicality (some decisions cannot be changed so plan appropriately) Do no harm. Adaptation Strategy at the very least should not make vulnerable communities anymore vulnerable. What issues should be addressed?	 Applicant data 427 MTC Look at lessons learned from other regions: NJ and FL. Adapt those lessons learned to Bay Area environment and challenges What people power 	Who should be an engaged
 Important to educate the public and the private sector. Need stakeholder buy-in. Can't simply present the plan and ask for help implementing. Need buy-in from the beginning. Political support Communications and coalition building How choices are made and what are their consequences in the region (prioritization)? Governance and information challenges, disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, habitat restoration and enhancement, safe and smart growth 	is available? • 350 Bay Area • Sierra Club • Grassroots orgs	 Partner? Foundations Planning and Public Works Depts. EBMUD EBRPD Courts Data from private sector Political support at state level 350 Bay Area, Sierra Club and other grass roots orgs. Find incentives for those partners to work with BCDC. They need to get something out of it. Climate Readiness Institute

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
What assets should be included?	What funding is available?	What kinds of new collaborations and partnerships are needed to ensure all frames of sustainability are considered? • Engage health experts • Groups that specialize in communications (PR firms, corporations, marketing firms)
Name the Regional Adaptation Plan:		Additional Comments:
Adaptable Sea Level Adaptation Plan (ASAP) credit to Shiva		
Allied Sea Level Adaptation Partnership (ASAP)	

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
 What should be the core components of the Regional Adaptation Plan? Informed by county and regional assessments Iterative process to build relationships, educate diverse stakeholders Key next steps and roles Build momentum for new funding sources 	 What types of information are available? Assessments State SLR Guidance Update 4th Assessment products—financing project OPR General Plan Guidelines Update 	 Who should co-lead with BCDC? ABAG, MTC Coastal Conservancy, OES, OPR State League of CA Cities (local regional chapters)
 What issues should be addressed? Governance and information challenges, disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, habitat restoration and enhancement, safe and smart growth Affordable, adequate housing Basic services (hospitals, schools) Indirect effects (i.e. combined flood effects from delta, storm water discharge, high tides, creeks) Permitting-regional/program options? 	 What people power is available? SLR expert, shared? Staff at each entity? Caltrans, CDFW, Coastal Conservancy, other state agencies with jurisdiction ARCCA and LGC (local government commission) 	 Who should be an engaged partner? Flood Management Districts ACOE Chamber of Commerce and Bay Planning Coalition Bay Area Economic Council Elected officials, local planners Directly affected communities and landowners

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
 What assets should be included? Public utilities Public infrastructure Affordable housing Baylands habitat Bay trail/public access May be informed by funder—what have capacity to address 	 What funding is available? Multi-benefit funding Subvention payments Enhanced infrastructure financing districts FEMA, multi-hazard mitigation funds Need new sources-e.g. gas tax State bond funds-Prop 84, Prop 1 for habitat/WG CalEPA Environmental Justice small grant program 	What kinds of new collaborations and partnerships are needed to ensure all frames of sustainability are considered? • Adopt a set of principles for outcomes • Get all to agree to the 4 sustainability principles
	Name the Regional Adaptation Plan: Rising Bay Plan, Really Important Problem	 Additional Comments: Opportunity to share SLR experts across jurisdictions, especially unincorporated

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
 What should be the core components of the Regional Adaptation Plan? Constructing learning process into it so that we can learn from mistakes (since mistakes will happen) Actionable/authority/resources Schedule Experimentation 	 What types of information are available? Look at examples outside of the Bay Area. What has the Netherlands done? How have they structured their framework and planning? Leverage existing data, planning efforts, networks, partners, people, science 	 Who should co-lead with BCDC? Regional Agencies: MTC, Water Boards, Air District, ABAG, federal agencies can support with funding Catalyst entities: NGOs, business, citizen groups, Elected officials
 What issues should be addressed? Prioritize multi-benefit actions (how can some assets protect other assets) Representation: multiple scales of government, community groups, business Identify leaders, champions Learning from failure 	 What people power is available? Be as inclusive as possible: universities, NGOs, private sector If you can demonstrate success, it will be easier to access funding and many of us can help 	 Who should be an engaged partner? Cities and counties, SPUR BeHGU partners Business community (bring them onboard by demonstrating benefits to them) Enviro justice community Citizen Groups Sustainable Silicon Valley Bay Planning Coalition

DESIRED OUTCOMES	RESOURCES	STAKEHOLDERS
 What assets should be included? Multi-asset prioritization but "don't kick the can down the road/shoreline" Landscape scale functional systems: nature-based solutions and human communities Cultural resources Listed species Critical infrastructure and emergency services Looking at assets as a system 	 What funding is available? Be as inclusive as possible: universities, NGOs, private sector If you can demonstrate success, it will be easier to access funding and many of us can help 	What kinds of new collaborations and partnerships are needed to ensure all frames of sustainability are considered? • tech and design community since we need their innovative thinking. • Business community
	 Name the Regional Adaptation Plan: Do not include the word "Plan". Invoke the vision that the plan is meant to achieve. Tap into sense of place, pride in Bay area. Climate Resilient Bay Area 	Additional Comments: